Applicant: Shunpei Yamazaki et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 07977-303001 / US5537

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REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 19, 20 and 24-64 are pending, with claims 1, 19, 20, 33, 44, 51, 57 and 61 being independent. Claims 1, 19, 33 and 44 have been amended, and claims 55-64 have been added. The amendments to claims 1, 19, 33 and 44 find support in the application at, for example, Fig. 1B. Support for the new claims may be found at, for example, Figs. 2A to 2C and paragraphs [0055] to [0061] of the application as published. No new matter has been introduced.

Initially, applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the interview granted to the undersigned on March 24, 2006. The remarks below reflect the substance of the interview.

Applicant also acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 20 and 51-54.

Claims 1-11, 19, and 24-50 have been rejected as being anticipated by Jung (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0018912). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection for the reasons discussed in applicant's appeal brief and for the additional reason that, as discussed at the interview, Jung does not describe or suggest forming a mixed region comprising a mixture of first and second organic compounds during irradiation with light in the deposition chamber, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 19, 33 and 44. Rather, as discussed at the interview, Jung describes formation of a polymer thin film that, as noted in paragraph [0036] of Jung, may include the simultaneous deposition of two or more organic compounds. As discussed at the interview, a polymer is significantly different from a mixture. For example, Webster's New World Dictionary, excerpts of which are attached, defines a "mixture" as "a substance containing two or more ingredients: distinguished from a compound in that the constituents are not in fixed proportions, do not lose their individual characteristics, and can be separated by physical means." By contrast, the same dictionary defines a "polymer" as "a naturally occurring or synthetic substance consisting of giant molecules formed from polymerization" where "polymerization" is defined as "the process of chaining together many simple molecules to form a more complex molecule with different physical properties" and "the changing of a compound into a polymeric form by this process."

For at least these reasons, the rejection should be withdrawn.

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With respect to independent claims 33 and 44, and their dependent claims, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection for the additional reason that Jung does not describe or suggest irradiating the light to activate the organic compound molecules and promote compact film formation. This irradiation and the resulting compactness is illustrated in Fig. 3A of the application and discussed, for example, at paragraphs [0063] to [0066]. Jung simply does not describe such activating of the organic compound or compacting of the film.

Similarly, new dependent claims 55 and 56, which depend from claims 1 and 19, are further distinguished because Jung does not describe or suggest compacting the mixed region through the irradiation with light to form a compacted mixed region comprising the first organic compound and the second organic compound, as recited in those claims.

New independent claim 57 recites compacting a layer of a compound by irradiating light to form a compacted layer comprising the compound. Accordingly, claim 57 and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable over Jung because Jung does not describe or suggest such compacting.

New independent claim 61 recites forming a layer comprising a mixture of first and second compounds and irradiating with light to form a compacted layer comprising the mixture. Accordingly, claim 61 and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable over Jung because Jung does not describe or suggest forming a layer comprising a mixture or compacting.

All claims are in condition for allowance.

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The fees in the amount of \$1,690 in payment of the request for continued examination fee (\$790) and the excess claims fees (\$900) are being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/27/06

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